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## GDR GLASS AND CERAMICS EXPORTS IN 1951

Further improvements in the quality of the products of the glass and ceramics industry have made it possible to reestablish the GDR (German Democratic Republic) as a factor in the world market. The quantity of glass, china, crockery, and earthenware exported in 1951 showed an increase of 137 percent compared with the previous year. The products went to all parts of the world.

The greatest increase in quantities exported was in the field of acidresistant crockery, of which the People's Democracies are the main consumers. The export of wall tiles, which were shipped to the Soviet Union, Denmark, and England, increased 6.5 times. Exports of fancy porcelain were doubled, the principal customers being overseas countries (US and Canada), as well as Sweden and Denmark.

Compared with the previous year, the export of household china rose by 150 percent. The principal customers for this item were the Soviet Union, Denmark, Sweden, and Switzerland. The export of porcelain for the electrical industry rose 300 percent, these products going largely to the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Austria, and Horway. Four times as much window glass was exported as in the preceding year. The principal purchasers were Bulgaria, Central and South America, and South Africa.

An increase of 137 percent was noted in the export of bottles, the most important orders having been re eived from the USSR, Norway, the Metherlands, and Denmark. The export of quartz glass was tripled. This product was shipped largely to the People's Democracies and to the Soviet Union. Large orders for laboratory glassware from the People's Democracies led to a 150-percent increase in exports in this field, in which the most important producers are Schott and Company in Jena and the VVB (Federation of People-Owned Enterprises) Westglas at Ilmenau.

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At the beginning of 1952 large export orders for glass and ceramic products were already on hand, so that the plants are booked for months in advance. Some china factories have already sold their entire production for 1952. There is an active demand for crockery products, particularly from Switzerland, the Metherlands, Demmark, Sweden, etc.

It was even possible to obtain a major order from West Germany within the framework of a compensation agreement. Because of the coal shortage caused by rearmament and the lack of high-quality Czechoslovak kaolin, the ability of West German plants to fill orders has been severely hampered.

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